Applicants submit that restriction between Groups I, II, and III is unnecessary. According to MPEP §803, the Examiner should examine all claims in an application, even though they are directed to distinct inventions, unless to do so would create a serious burden. In the instant case, the claims of Groups I are drawn to methods involving the use of phospholipids to mitigate one or more symptoms of atherosclerosis, while the claims of group II are drawn to kits comprising the phospholipid(s) and instructional materials teaching the administration of the ph9ospholipid(s) to a mammal to mitigate one or more symptoms of atherosclerosis. A search for prior art relevant to the use of phospholipids for mitigating one or more symptoms of atherosclerosis is expected to identify references relevant to kits for the same purpose if such exists. Thus, a search for art relevant to Groups I and II together, entails no greater burden than a search for prior art relevant to Group I alone. Accordingly, Examination of Groups I and II together entails no serious burden and the restriction between these groups should be withdrawn.

Similarly, the claims of Group III are drawn to compositions comprising the phospholipids in a unit dosage form. Again, a search for prior art relevant to the use of phospholipids for mitigating one or more symptoms of atherosclerosis is expected to identify references relevant to unit dosage formulations of such phospholipids, if such exists. Thus, a search for art relevant to Groups I and III together, entails no greater burden than a search for prior art relevant to Group I alone. Accordingly, Examination of Groups I and III together entails no serious burden and the restriction between these groups should be withdrawn.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3513.

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Respectfully submitted,

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